

News Release

News Release

Roseburg BLM News

Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg District
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, OR 97470

NR04_1

Contact: E.Lynn Burkett – 464-3245

January 8, 2004

Conservation established for the Mariposa Lily

Roseburg, Ore. – A Conservation agreement between the Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) was signed yesterday to provide protection and enhancement of the Crinite Mariposa Lily (*Calochortus coxii*).

This particular Lily only grows in the Douglas County area. Its leaves are flat and narrow, slightly-curved, grass-like blades. The hairy flower petals are white with a yellow band above a magenta to violet base. It is a perennial bulb-forming species that lies dormant from August to January, begins above-ground growth in late January and blooms from May to July. It grows along a ten-mile serpentine ridge between Myrtle Creek and Riddle, Oregon. It is primarily found in transition areas between coniferous forests and grass-shrub meadows. The Crinite Mariposa Lily occurs in areas with a very high natural fire frequency, due to hot, dry summers and abundance of lightning strikes. Effects of fire exclusion over the last 80 years have allowed the encroachment of woody early-successional plant species, thus dramatically altering much of the Lilies habitat.

The purpose of this conservation agreement is to identify and schedule management actions that will remove or limit threats to the Lily and provide for its long-term survival. “This agreement furthers our cooperative efforts set forth in the plan” says Sam Friedman, Botanist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.”.

Since, 1992, our botanists have been very proactive in monitoring and protecting these populations. We’re glad that we finally have this conservation agreement in place to further protect the species,” says Dwight Fielder, South River Field Manager for the Roseburg BLM. The *C. coxii* is considered a Species of Concern by the FWS and has been designated as a Bureau Sensitive Species by the BLM and an endangered species by the State of Oregon. It is ranked as a Globally and State Imperiled species by the Oregon Natural Heritage Program.

For more information, call the Roseburg BLM office at 440-4930.

-BLM-